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Statistics

House of The Week design X-9 has eight rooms and 2 1/2 baths on four levels: living room, dining room, kitchen, terrace and four bedrooms.

A full basement is under the living-dining-kitchen area. The living and bedroom levels have a total of 1,800 sq. ft. For estimating building costs, add 480 sq. ft. for the terrace room and 425 sq. ft. for the two-car garage.

Overall dimensions of the house are 50 ft. 8 inches by 39 ft. 10 inches. A 75 by 100 foot lot would be adequate.

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The House of the Week

Multi-Level Split Design Uses Terracing Technique

By JOHN O. B. WALLACE

Designed for garden enthusiasts, this multi-level split makes use of the terrace technique found in formal gardens of the Orient.

The result is a large family house with features appealing especially to "green thumbs." We have designated it X-9 in the House of The Week series.

The terraced effect quickly becomes apparent.

On one level is the entrance foyer. Up three broad steps to the right is the living room. Up two steps from the living room is the dining room and adjoining kitchen.

On the same level as the foyer there is a large terrace room, which lies four steps below the level of the dining-kitchen area.

Along one wall of the terrace room is a glass-enclosed greenhouse. This wall is fixed glass.

The outside greenhouse wall is glass, too, so the terrace room not only has filtered natural light; but a curtain of greenery to decorate it on the greenhouse side.

There are openings at both ends of the greenhouse, one leading to a rear terrace; the other leading to the garage.

Special Sink for Flowers The garage, itself, can be entered from the terrace room at a point only a few steps away from a flower-arranging sink. Here the gardener can handle plants and flowers without leaving the house proper in disarray.

Herbert C. Struppman, the architect who developed this "green thumb" house, has carried out the gardening scheme still further. The four upper bedrooms are reached from a landing above the dining room-kitchen level and the balcony landing is bordered by a flower box railing.

There are planters in the entrance foyer and in an alcove between the dining room and kitchen. Planters are in abundance, outside the living room's bow window, the bedroom windows and the three window sides of a dinette at the rear of the kitchen.

Wrought iron trellis columns decorate the sheltered, flagstone front porch and there is a lily pool in the rear terrace area.

Struppman has adroitly planned the bedroom area. Three of the four bedrooms have cross ventilation. Each of the children's bedrooms has two closets. The master bedroom, nearly 16 by 16 ft. in size, has four closets, a private bath with a large vanity and an angled tub and a dressing room alcove.

Together there are 15 closets on the bedroom level alone. The second bath is equal in size to the master bath and has a vanity and tub.

Luxury Sized Bedrooms Not one of the bedrooms is less than 125 sq. ft. in size. These luxurious dimensions usually are found only in the most expensive homes.

In borrowing from the Orientals, Struppman has created vistas in all directions by terracing the dining room above the living room and the living room above the entry.

"The glimpses of greenery beyond and the little planter areas combine outdoor spaciousness with the intimacy of home," the architect says. "These two levels are exciting and dramatic. But no matter how hobby-minded you are, a home should be made for practical upkeep."

"My chief concern, therefore, was open space with rooms well set off for privacy where needed; and plenty of informal living area to meet the demands of today's junior and senior citizens."

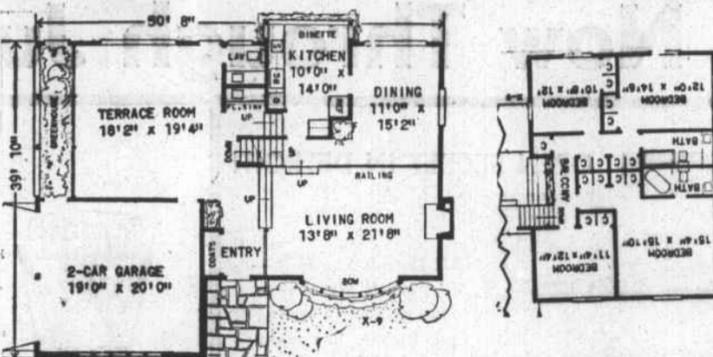
The living room fireplace is opposite the foyer step-up and an open railing divides the living and dining areas. From the living room it is possible to look across the dining room and kitchen into the rear garden. And from the dining room, one can look across the dining room into the front garden.

Brick and horizontal wood siding are used on the exterior walls. The roof is of asphalt shingles. Other exterior details include wood shutters, wood and stone flower boxes and casement windows.

This study plan shows each floor of the house together with each of the four elevations.



Wrought iron trellis columns and wood and stone flower boxes greet the visitor to this multi-level "green thumb" house. The arrangement of its levels is based on a technique used by Oriental experts in planning terraced gardens.



The floor plan at the left shows the terraced levels of the entrance foyer, the living room and the dining-kitchen area. The terrace room is on the same level as the foyer. The plan at the right shows the bedroom area with its balcony, bordered by a flower box railing.

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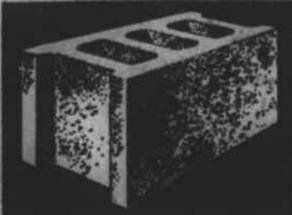


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VFW Home at Eaton Rapids Turns Out Fine Products, Good Citizens

Al Thomas, past commander of Post No. 2401, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Beaufort, on Friday, Memorial Day, called attention to the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for children at Eaton Rapids, Mich.

Appearing in the May issue of The VFW Leader is a reprint of an editorial on the home. The editorial appeared in the Eaton Rapids Journal. Parts of it are reprinted below.

"Our community of Eaton Rapids may be small as compared to other towns in the state of Michigan, but it produces one of the most valuable products a state could ever want — good citizens. We are fortunate in having, just three miles from our town, a village of children. This village is the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home, the only one of its kind in the United States.

"Its present population, consisting of 193 children, comes from 23 of the states in the union, but practically all of the states plus the territory of Alaska have been represented in the past.

"The VFW Home was founded in 1925, with only one family residing there. Since that time, over 1,000 children have called this "home", and nearly 300 of them have gone ahead to achieve a higher education, usually in the colleges of Michigan.

"Many who have attained a higher education have become attorneys, doctors, engineers, nurses, ministers, and teachers.

"Although the VFW Home gives to Michigan well-educated and well-developed citizens, this is not done at the expense of either the city of Eaton Rapids or the state of Michigan. Nor does it receive money as a state supported children's home. The development and maintenance of the home is the result of completely voluntary contribution of funds, principally by VFW Posts throughout the nation.

The VFW Home helps carry the burden of the local community by paying tuition for each child sent to the Eaton Rapids school, and by providing transportation in busses owned and operated by the Home.

"Educated people and financial support are tangible additions to the state and local community, but the Home gives something more to Michigan than things which can be measured.

"Through its philosophy of child development, it gives leadership in the community and points the way to the best in childrearing. Each child receives the benefits of life with a housemother and "family" members, living in good surroundings under expert supervision.

"A fine hospital, a modern community center for recreation, a guest lodge, a chapel, the benefits of both country and city living—all these keep before the child the best way of life, inspire him to achieve his highest potential, encourage him to make his life count."

New Mexico's first civilian territorial governor, Charles Bent, was scalped and murdered in his home in Taos during a brief Indian uprising in 1847.

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